

# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

333 West Ocean Boulevard, 5th Floor

Long Beach, CA 90802

FAX (562) 570-6753

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

\$25.00 FILING FEE

## NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: Office of the County Clerk  
Environmental Filings  
12400 E. Imperial Highway, #1101  
Norwalk, CA 90650

From: Community & Environmental Planning Division  
Department of Planning and Building  
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Date Delivered:

In conformance with Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines, please post this notice for period of 20 days. Enclosed is the required fee of \$25.00 for processing.

Notice is hereby given that the Long Beach Redevelopment Board, Lead Agency for the purposes of CEQA, proposes to adopt a Negative Declaration for the project listed below.

1. **Project Location:**

2. **Project Title:**

3. **Project Description:**

4. Review period during which the Lead Agency will receive comments on the proposed mitigated Negative Declaration:

Starting Date:

Ending Date:

5. Public Meeting of the Long Beach Redevelopment Board:

Date:

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: City Council Chambers  
Long Beach City Hall  
333 West Ocean Boulevard, Plaza Level

6. Copies of the report and all referenced documents will be available for review by contacting the undersigned, or on the web at: [www.longbeach.gov/plan/pb/epd/er.asp](http://www.longbeach.gov/plan/pb/epd/er.asp).
7. The site is not on any list as enumerated under Section 65965.5 of the California Government Code.
8. The Initial Study may find significant adverse impacts to occur to the following resource areas:
9. The Negative Declaration has no significant impacts.

For additional information contact:

333 West Ocean Boulevard, Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802

CITY OF LONG BEACH  
REDEVELOPMENT BOARD

**NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

**PROJECT:**

**I. TITLE:**

**II. PROPONENT**

**III. DESCRIPTION**

**IV. LOCATION**

**V. HEARING DATE & TIME**

**VI. HEARING LOCATION**

City Council Chambers  
Long Beach City Hall  
333 West Ocean Boulevard, Plaza Level

## NEGATIVE DECLARATION

### FINDING:

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the Long Beach City Redevelopment Board has conducted an Initial Study to determine whether the following project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. On the basis of that study, the Board hereby finds that the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report because the Mitigation Measures described in the initial study have been added to the project.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- \* If you wish to appeal the appropriateness or adequacy of this document, address your written comments to our finding that the project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment: (1) identify the environmental effect(s), why they would occur, and why they would be significant, and (2) suggest any mitigation measures which you believe would eliminate or reduce the effect to an acceptable level. Regarding item (1) above, explain the basis for your comments and submit any supporting data or references.

This document and supporting attachments are provided for review by the general public. This is an information document about environmental effects only. Supplemental information is on file and may be reviewed in the office listed above. The decision making body will review this document and potentially many other sources of information before considering the proposed project.

## INITIAL STUDY

*Prepared by:*

City of Long Beach  
Community and Environmental Planning  
333 West Ocean Boulevard, Fifth Floor  
Long Beach, California 90802

## **INITIAL STUDY**

- 1. Project title:**
- 2. Lead agency name and address:**
- 3. Contact person and phone number:**
- 4. Project location:**
- 5. Project sponsor's name and address:**
- 6. General Plan:**
- 7. Zoning:**

**8. Description of project:**

**9. Surrounding land uses and setting:**

**10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:**

## ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

Aesthetics	Agriculture Resources	Air Quality
Biological Resources	Cultural Resources	Geology/Soils
Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Hydrology/Water Quality	Land Use/Planning
Mineral Resources	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System	Noise
Population/Housing	Public Services	Recreation
Transportation	Utilities/Service Systems	Mandatory Findings of Significance

## DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the Environment and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. **A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



## **EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS:**

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parenthesis following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g. the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g. the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less than Significant with A Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration Section 1 5063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated", describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>I. AESTHETICS – Would the project:</b>				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				
<b>II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES – In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:</b>				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?				
<b>III. AIR QUALITY – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:</b>				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				

## Negative Declaration

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				

#### **IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:**

- a) Have a substantial adverse impact, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?
- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

**V. CULTURAL RESOURCES** – Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section §15064.5?
- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section §15064.5?
- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?
- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

**VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS** – Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
  - i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.
  - ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?
  - iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including Liquefaction?
  - iv) Landslides?
- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?
- c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				

## VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS –

Would the project:

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?
- b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?
- d) Be located on a site, which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?
- g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:</b>				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				
f) Otherwise degrade water quality?				
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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**IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING –** Would the project:

- a) Physically divide an established community?
- b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?
- c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

**X. MINERAL RESOURCES –** Would the project:

- a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?
- b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

**XI. NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM –** Would the project:

- a) Result in a significant loss of pervious surface?
- b) Create a significant discharge of pollutants into the storm drain or water way?
- c) Violate any best management practices of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit?

**XII. NOISE –** Would the project result in:

- a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?
- b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				

**XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING –** Would the project:

- a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?
- b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?
- c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

**XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES –** Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

- a) Fire protection?
- b) Police protection?
- c) Schools?
- d) Parks?
- e) Other public facilities?



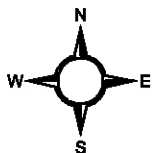
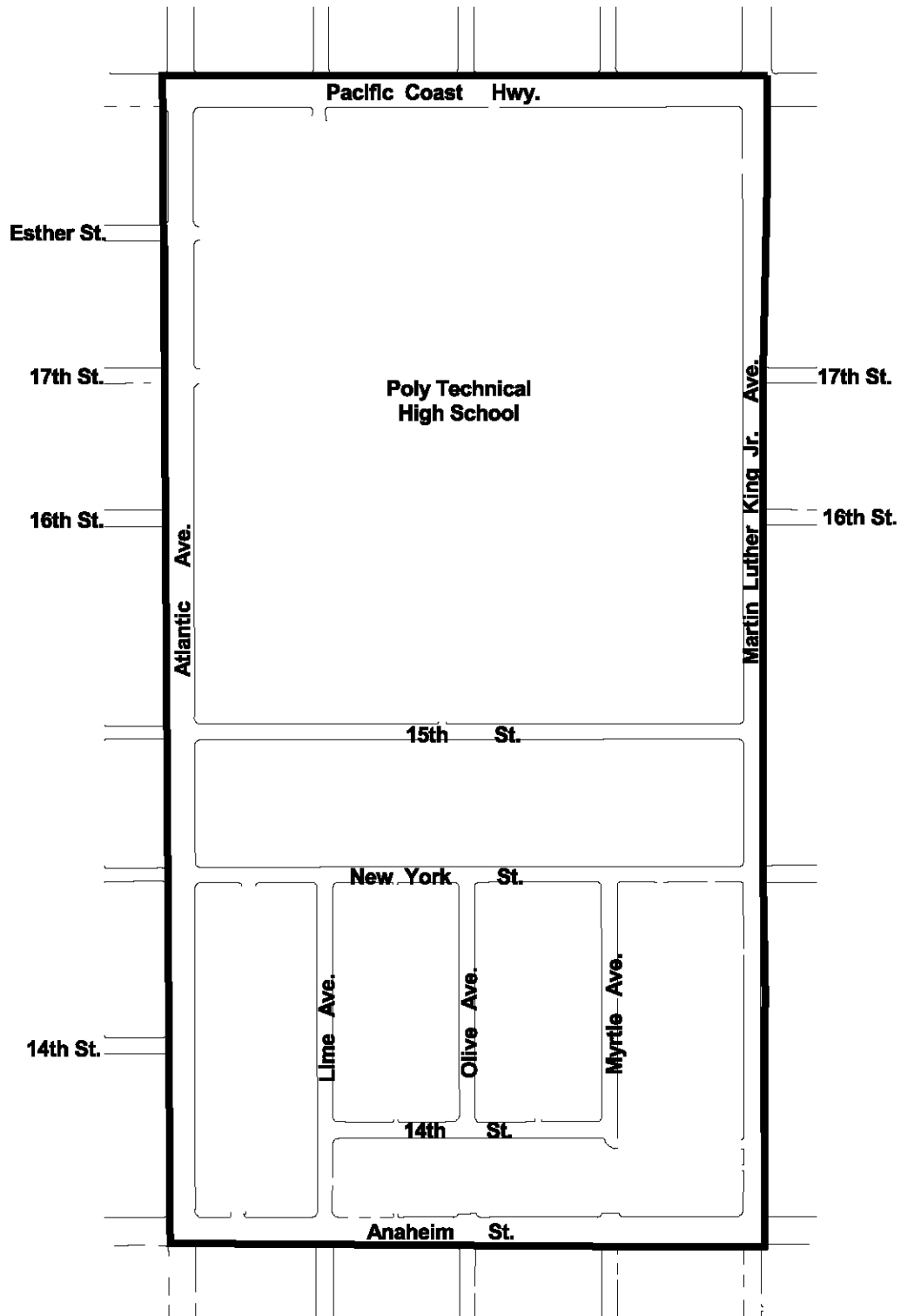
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XV. RECREATION –</b>				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				
<b>XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:</b>				
a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				
d) Substantially increase hazards to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				
g) Conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				
<b>XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS –</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlement and resources, or are new or expanded entitlement needed?				
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				

#### **XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE –**

- a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?
- c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

# POLY HIGH REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA MAP



Not To Scale

Date of Adoption: 4-3-73  
Size: 87.1 Acres  
— Project Area Boundary

## DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

### I. AESTHETICS

**a. Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?**

No Impact.

The project site is an 87-acre area located in the central part of the City. The proposed project that this document relates to is a ninth amendment to an existing Redevelopment Area. The amendment is necessary in order to increase the tax increment limit for the area. The proposed amendment does not relate to any specific development or construction.

**b. Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?**

No Impact.

Please see I (a) above for discussion.

**c. Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?**

No Impact.

Please see I (a) above for discussion.

**d. Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?**

No Impact.

Please see I (a) for discussion.

### II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES

No Impact. (for a through c)

The project site is not located within an agricultural zone, and there are no agricultural zones within the vicinity of the project. The 87-acre Redevelopment Area is located within a sector of the city that has been

built upon for over eighty years. Redevelopment efforts within the project area would have no effect upon agricultural resources within the City of Long Beach or any other neighboring city or county.

### **III. AIR QUALITY**

The South Coast Air Basin is subject to possibly some of the worst air pollution in the country, attributable mainly to its topography, climate, meteorological conditions, a large population base, and highly dispersed urban land use patterns.

Air quality conditions are primarily affected by the rate and location of pollutant emissions and by climatic conditions that influence the movement and dispersion of pollutants. Atmospheric conditions such as wind speed, wind direction, and air temperature gradients, along with local and regional topography, provide the links between air pollutant emissions and air quality.

The South Coast Air Basin generally has a limited capability to disperse air contaminants because of its low wind speeds and persistent temperature inversions. In the Long Beach area, predominantly daily winds consist of morning onshore airflow from the southwest at a mean speed of 7.3 miles per hour and afternoon and evening offshore airflow from the northwest at 0.2 to 4.7 miles per hour with little variability between seasons. Summer wind speeds average slightly higher than winter wind speeds. The prevailing winds carry air contaminants northward and then eastward over Whittier, Covina, Pomona and Riverside.

The majority of pollutants normally found in the Los Angeles County atmosphere originate from automobile exhausts as unburned hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen and other materials. Of the five major pollutant types (carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, reactive organic gases, sulfur oxides, and particulates), only sulfur oxide emissions are dominated by sources other than automobile exhaust.

#### **a. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable Air Quality Attainment Plan?**

No Impact.

The Southern California Association of Governments has determined that if a project is consistent with the growth forecasts for the sub region in which it is located, it is consistent with the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and regional emissions are mitigated by the control strategy

specified in the AQMP. By the year 2010, preliminary population projections by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) indicate that Long Beach will grow by 27,680+ residents, or six percent, to a population of 491,000+.

The proposed project, an amendment to increase a tax increment limit, would not involve any development or construction. This particular project would have not impact upon air quality.

**b. Would the project violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?**

No Impact.

Please see III (a) above for discussion.

**c. Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?**

No Impact.

Please see III (a) above for discussion.

**d. Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?**

No Impact.

The CEQA Air Quality Handbook defines sensitive receptors as children, athletes, elderly and sick individuals that are more susceptible to the effects of air pollution than the population at large. The proposed project, an amendment to increase a tax increment limit, would not be anticipated to produce significant levels of any emission that could affect sensitive receptors.

**e. Would the project create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?**

No Impact.

Please see III (a) above for discussion.

#### **IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

No Impact. (for a through f)

The proposed project site is an 87-acre Redevelopment Area located within the urbanized central core of the City. The area includes residential, commercial, and institutional land uses. The vegetation is minimal and consists of common horticultural species in landscaped areas. There is no evidence of rare or sensitive species as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations or Title 50 of the Federal Code of Regulations.

The proposed site is not located in a protected wetlands area. The proposed project is not anticipated to interfere with the migratory movement of any wildlife species. The biological habitat and species diversity is limited to that typically found in highly populated and urbanized Southern California settings.

No adverse impacts would be anticipated to biological resources.

#### **V. CULTURAL RESOURCES**

No Impact. (for a through d)

There is some evidence to indicate that primitive people inhabited portions of the city as early as 5,000 to 2,000 B.C. Much of the remains and artifacts of these ancient people have been destroyed as the city has been developed. Of the archaeological sites remaining, many of them seem to be located in the southeast sector of the city. No adverse impacts are anticipated to cultural resources. The 87-acre Redevelopment Area is located outside of the sector of the City expected to have the higher probability of latent artifacts.

#### **VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

The project site, an 87-acre Redevelopment Area, is located in the central part of the City. The project is an amendment to increase the tax increment limit for the Redevelopment Area and does not involve and development or construction.

**a. Would the project expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:**

i) **Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)**

ii) **Strong seismic ground shaking?**

iii) **Seismic-related ground failure, including Liquefaction?**

iv) **Landslides?**

b. **Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?**

c. **Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?**

d. **Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?**

e. **Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?**

No Impact. (for a through e)

Any new developments proposed by Redevelopment in the future would have their own environmental review. Therefore, this project would have no impact upon Geology and Soils.

## **VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

a. **Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?**

No Impact.

The proposed project would be increasing the tax increment limit for the designated 87-acre Redevelopment Area. The project would not involve and development or construction. The function of the project would not



involve the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, the proposed project would not be anticipated to create any significant hazard to the public or the environment via the use, transport or disposal of hazardous materials.

**b. Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?**

No Impact.

Please see VII (a) above for discussion.

**c. Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?**

No Impact.

Please see VII (a) above for discussion.

**d. Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?**

No Impact:

Please see VII (a) above for discussion.

**e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?**

No Impact:

The proposed project site is not located within the airport land use plan.

**f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?**

No Impact.

Please see VII (e) above for discussion.

**g. Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?**

No Impact:

Please see VII (a) above for discussion.

**h. Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wild land fires, including where wild lands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wild lands?**

No Impact:

The project site is within an urbanized setting and would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wild land fires.

## **VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY**

The Flood Insurance Administration has prepared a new Flood Hazard Map designating potential flood zones, (Based on the projected inundation limits for breach of the Hansen Dam and that of the Whittier Narrows Dam, as well as the 100-year flood as delineated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) which was adopted in July 1998.

**a. Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?**

No Impact:

The 87-acre Redevelopment Area is in an urbanized area and is not adjacent to any major water source. The proposed project would increase the tax increment limit in the Area. The project would not involve any development or construction. Therefore, there would be no violation of any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

**b. Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local**

**groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?**

No Impact.

The proposed project would not involve the use of any water. The project related to a financial amendment to the Redevelopment Area.

**c. Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?**

No Impact.

The project site is in an urban setting and is not near any stream or river. The project does not involve any development or construction and would, therefore, not result in any erosion or siltation on or off the site.

**d. Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or off-site?**

No Impact:

Please see VIII (a), (b) and (c) above for discussion.

**e. Would the project create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems?**

No Impact:

Please see VIII (a), (b) and (c) above for discussion.

**f. Would the project otherwise degrade water quality?**

No Impact.

Please see VIII (a), (b) and (c) above for discussion.

**g. Would the project place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?**

No Impact.

Please see VIII (a), (b) and (c) above for discussion.

**h. Would the project place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?**

No Impact.

Please see VIII (a), (b) and (c) above for discussion.

**i. Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?**

No Impact.

Please see VIII (a), (b) and (c) above for discussion.

**j. Would the project result in inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?**

No Impact.

Please see VIII (a), (b) and (c) above for discussion.

## **IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING**

**a. Would the project physically divide an established community?**

No Impact.

The project site is an 87-acre Redevelopment Area in the central part of the City, which is an established community. The project being analyzed by this document is amendment to increase the tax increment limit in order to benefit the Redevelopment Area. The amendment would not be expected to physically divide any established community.

**b. Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local**

**coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?**

Less Than Significant Impact

The 87-acre Redevelopment Area that would be affected by the proposed project includes the following General Plan Land Use Districts: #3A – Townhomes; #8A – Traditional Retail Strip Commercial; #8N – Shopping Nodes and #10 Institutional and School District. The Area also includes the following Zoning districts: “R-1-N” Single Family Residential; “R-3-T” Townhouse Residential; “CHW” Regional Highway Commercial; “CCA” Community Automobile-Oriented Commercial and “I” Institutional.

The proposed project is an amendment that would have a financial change upon the Area, but would not include any proposed development or construction. The amendment would, however, facilitate future development and rehabilitation in the Area.

When proposals are submitted in the future that could have an impact upon the land uses in the Redevelopment Area, environmental review will be required. It is not anticipated that such proposals will have a negative or significant impact upon the environment, but that cannot be determined until the eventual proposals are submitted. As a result, the response at this time is “less than significant impact” rather than “no impact”.

**c. Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural communities conservation plan?**

No Impact:

The project site is located in an urban setting where there are no habitat or natural community conservation plans in place. Therefore, there would be not conflict with such a plan.

**X. MINERAL RESOURCES**

The primary mineral resource within the City of Long Beach has been oil. However, oil extraction operations within the city have diminished over the last century as this resource has become depleted due to extraction operations. Today, oil extraction continues but on a greatly reduced scale in comparison to that which occurred in the past. The project site does not contain any oil extraction operations. There are no other known mineral resources in the Redevelopment Area that could be negatively impacted by development.

**a. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?**

No Impact.

The project site is located in an urbanized setting. The proposed project does not involve any development or construction. The project would not impact or result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource.

**b. Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?**

No Impact.

Please see X (a) above for discussion.

**XI. NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)**

The proposed project would no involve any development or construction. Any future development proposals in the Redevelopment Area would have their own environmental review and NPDES requirements.

**a. Would the project result in a significant lose of pervious surface?**

No Impact.

The proposed project would not include any development, construction or other physical changes within the Redevelopment Area. The proposed project would not result in a significant loss of pervious surface.

**b. Would the project create a significant discharge of pollutants into the storm drain or water way?**

No Impact.

Please see XI (a) above for discussion.

**c. Would the project violate any best management practices of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit?**

No Impact.

Please see XI (a) above for discussion.

## **XII. NOISE**

Noise is defined as unwanted sound that disturbs human activity. Environmental noise levels typically fluctuate over time, and different types of noise descriptors are used to account for this variability. Measuring noise levels involves intensity, frequency, and duration, as well as time of occurrence.

Some land uses are considered more sensitive to ambient noise levels than other uses, due to the amount of noise exposure and the types of activities involved. Residences, motels, hotels, schools, libraries, churches, nursing homes, auditoriums, parks and outdoor recreation areas are generally more sensitive to noise than are commercial and industrial land uses.

The City of Long Beach uses the State Noise/Land Use Compatibility Standards, which suggests a desirable exterior noise exposure at 65 dBA CNEL for sensitive land uses such as residences. Less sensitive commercial and industrial uses may be compatible with ambient noise levels up to 70 dBA. The City of Long Beach has an adopted Noise Ordinance that sets exterior and interior noise standards.

**a. Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?**

No Impact:

The proposed project would be an administrative act that would impact the 87-acre Redevelopment Area. The project that this document pertains to would not involve any development or construction. Any development proposed in the Area in the future would have its own environmental review where noise impacts would be assessed. As such, the proposed project would result in no noise impacts to the surrounding environment.

**b. Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?**

No Impact.

Please see XII (a) above for discussion.

**c. Would the project create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?**

No Impact.

Please see XII (a) above for discussion.

**d. Would the project create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?**

No Impact.

Please see XII (a) above for discussion.

**e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?**

No Impact:

The proposed project is not located within any airport land use plan.

**f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area excessive noise levels?**

No Impact:

The proposed project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

### **XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING**

The City of Long Beach is the second largest city in Los Angeles County and the fifth largest in California. At the time of the 2000 Census, Long Beach had a population of 461,522, which presents a 7.5 percent increase from the 1990 Census. According to the 2000 Census, there were 163,088 housing units in Long Beach, with a citywide vacancy rate of 6.32



percent. It is projected that a total population of approximately 499,705 persons will inhabit the City of Long Beach by the year 2010.

**a. Would the project induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project would be an administrative act that would impact the 87-acre Redevelopment Area. The project that this document pertains to would not involve any development or construction. The project would facilitate future development proposals that could induce population growth in the Area. Any proposed residential development would be analyzed at the time of submittal and would have to comply with the underlying General Plan and Zoning requirements. The population growth resulting from the development would be anticipated to be less than significant.

**b. Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

The project that this document analyzes would result in encouraging development proposals in the Redevelopment Area in the future. Such proposals could result in the displacement of existing housing; however, not enough information is known at the present time regarding the level of displacement. Such proposals could also include new housing that would offset the displaced housing. Any proposal in the future would be analyzed during project review to measure the impact that would not be expected to be significant.

**c. Would the project displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

Please see XIII (b) above for discussion.

#### **XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES**

Fire protection is provided by the Long Beach Fire Department. The Department has 23 in-city stations. The Department is divided into Fire Prevention, Fire Suppression, Bureau of Instruction, and the Bureau of

Technical Services. The Fire Department is accountable for medical, paramedic, and other first aid rescue calls from the community.

The Long Beach Police Department serves the project site. The Department is divided into Patrol, Traffic, Detective, Juvenile, Vice, Community, Jail, Records, and Administration Sections. The City has four Patrol Divisions; East, West, North and South.

The City of Long Beach is primarily served by the Long Beach Unified School District, which also serves the Cities of Signal Hill, and most of Lakewood. The District has been operating at or over capacity in recent years.

**Would the proposed project have an adverse impact upon any of the following public services:**

**a. Fire protection?**

No Impact.

The proposed amendment to the Redevelopment Area would have no impact upon Fire services.

**b. Police protection?**

No Impact.

The proposed amendment to the Redevelopment Area would have no impact upon Police services.

**c. Schools?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project would be an amendment to a Redevelopment Area that includes Poly High School and Roosevelt Elementary School. The impact of the proposed project upon the local schools would not be anticipated to be adverse. However, the amendment would facilitate future development projects in the Area. Such developments could have an impact upon the local schools. At the time of issuance of building permits for any residential developments in the Area, the project applicants would be required to pay the required per square foot School Impact Fee. The City would calculate and collect the fees and forward them to the Long Beach Unified School District for use on district facilities.

**d. Parks?**

Less Than Significant Impact

The proposed project would be an amendment to a Redevelopment Area that includes California Recreation Center. The amendment would facilitate future development projects in the Area. Such developments could have an impact upon the local recreation facilities. At the time of issuance of building permits for any residential developments in the Area, the project applicants would be required to pay the required Park Impact Fees to assist in offsetting the impact of new development upon the park system.

**e. Other public facilities?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

Other public facilities located in and near the Redevelopment Area would not be directly impacted by the project this document is analyzing. They could, however, be impacted by future development proposals in the Area. At the time of project review, such future development proposals would be reviewed for their impact upon all public facilities.

**XV. RECREATION**

**a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

The proposed project analyzed by this document would not directly increase the use of existing recreational facilities. However, future residential development proposals could increase the use of the nearest park and other existing facilities in the City. Please see XIV (d) above for future discussion.

**b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?**

Less Than Significant Impact.

The project in question, an amendment to the Redevelopment Area, would not involve any development or construction. Therefore, it would not include nor require any recreational facilities.

**XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC**

Since 1980, Long Beach has experienced significant growth. Continued growth is expected into the next decade. Inevitably, growth will generate additional demand for travel. Without proper planning and necessary transportation improvements, this increase in travel demand, if unmanaged, could result in gridlock on freeways and streets, and jeopardize the tranquility of residential neighborhoods.

**a. Would the project cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?**

Less than Significant Impact.

The proposed project is an amendment that would have a financial change upon a Redevelopment Area, but would not include any proposed development or construction. The amendment would, however, facilitate future development and rehabilitation in the Area.

When development proposals are submitted in the future that could have an impact upon the transportation system in the Redevelopment Area, an analysis of the circulation impacts will be required as part of the environmental review. It is not anticipated that such proposals will have a negative or significant impact upon the environment, but that cannot be determined until the eventual proposals are submitted. As a result, the response at this time is “less than significant impact” rather than “no impact”.

**b. Would the project exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?**

No Impact.

The proposed project would involve no actual development. The project would not result in any changes to the present transportation system in the Redevelopment Area.

**c. Would the project result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?**

No Impact.

The proposed project would not include any changes to air traffic patterns over the Redevelopment Area.

**d. Would the project substantially increase hazards to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?**

No Impact.

Please see XVI (b) above for discussion.

**e. Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?**

No Impact.

Please see XVI (b) above for discussion.

**f. Would the project result in inadequate parking capacity?**

No Impact

Please see XVI (b) above for discussion.

**g. Would the project conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?**

No Impact:

Please see XVI (b) above for discussion.

## **XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS**

**Would the project::**

- a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?**
- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**
- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**
- d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlement and resources, or are new or expanded entitlement needed?**
- e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?**
- f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?**
- g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?**

No Impact. (for a through g)

The proposed project, an amendment to a Redevelopment Area, would be an administrative act that would not involve any development or construction. The amendment would facilitate the submittal of development proposals in the future within the Redevelopment Area. Any future proposals would be reviewed individually regarding their potential impacts upon the utility and service systems in the City.

## **XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

- a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife**

**species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?**

No Impact.

The proposed project would be an administrative act in a Redevelopment Area. There would be not potential that the project would degrade the environment. There would be no anticipated negative impact to any known fish or wildlife habitat or species.

**b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?**

No Impact.

The proposed project is not anticipated to have a cumulative considerable effect upon the environment. The project would be an administrative act that would affect the Redevelopment Area. The project would facilitate future development proposals in the Area that would be individually analyzed for cumulative impacts.

**c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?**

No Impact.

There are no substantial adverse environmental effects to human life either directly or indirectly related to the proposed project.